

Friedmann
10/784,427

REMARKS

The undersigned requests a personal interview with the Examiner in charge of this application.

Claims 1-2 and 4-11 were rejected as being unpatentable over Williamson (1,016,808).

Claim 3 was rejected as being unpatentable over Williamson in view of Cooper (530,398).

The 1912 patent to Williamson discloses a submarine pleasure apparatus in which Fig. 7 shows a house on land, a building on the water surface being supported by the seabed, and tunnels connecting the land house to both the building on the water and what appears to be a viewing structure on the seabed. Needless to say, the arrangement is designed as a tourist attraction and not for permanent or semi-permanent living quarters.

The 1894 patent to Cooper shows diving apparatus and was cited for the retractable anchors.

In view of the excellent art cited by the Examiner, claim 1 has been extensively amended to recite the surface structure having a central energy core surrounded by satellite sub-station domes (see Fig. 2), the interior of each sub-station dome having housing, garden areas, and other outdoor activities facilities (Fig. 5 and page 33), sub-surface walkways connecting each sub-station dome to adjacent sub-station domes (Page 43), and a transport system along the outer circumference of the surface structure (Fig. 9, page 23). It is believed that this combination is not taught or suggested by any of the above references.

Depending claim 4 has been amended to call for the floating platforms for aircraft and docking for vessels connected by tunnel to the surface structure (Figs. 2 and 20).

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A new depending claim 12 has been added which adds the wind energy sources along the periphery of the surface structure (Fig. 11) and the iris seals for sealing off pressurized areas to prevent water from entering (page 43 and Fig. 24).

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the claims in their present form distinguish over the art of record and should be allowed.

A conscientious effort has been made to place this application in condition for immediate allowance. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned or Mr. Kroll if further changes are required to obtain allowance of the application.

A favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF FAXING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, telephone number 703-872-9306 on April 15, 2005.


Leonard Belkin